



PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 8442.0002.02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Joseph C. CAUTHEN

Application No.: 10/075,615

Filed: February 15, 2002

For: SPINAL DISC ANNULUS
RECONSTRUCTION METHOD AND
SPINAL DISC ANNULUS STENT

Group Art Unit: 3738

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to the examination of the above application, please amend this application
as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace paragraph [008] with the following amended paragraph:

An additional method of relieving the symptoms is thermal annuloplasty,
involving the heating of sub-annular zones in the non-herniated painful disc, seeking
pain relief, but making no claim of reconstruction of the ruptured, discontinuous annulus
wall.


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